

BRUSH HOLLOW & MILL CREEK

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI/HIKING AREA

WELCOME to the Brush Hollow and Mill Creek Trail systems. The Brush Hollow Trails offer three loops totalling 7.7 miles for cross-country skiing, hiking and mountain biking. The Mill Creek Trail (5.6 miles) connects the Brush Hollow Trails with the Twin Lakes Trail. This trail is best suited to hiking. The trailhead offers accessible parking and a restroom. This area is managed for recreation and wildlife habitat, mainly turkey and bear. Big Mill Creek is a popular trout fishing stream.

FINDING THE TRAIL – The Brush Hollow Trailhead is located ten miles north of Ridgway on State Route 948. These trails can be found on the James City quadrangle map.

HIKING MILL CREEK – The trail is 5.6 miles and is marked with gray diamonds. The trail starts at the Brush Hollow Trail and ends at the Twin Lakes Trail near Twin Lakes Recreation Area. The Twin Lakes Trail connects Twin Lakes Recreation Area with the North Country National Scenic Trail. Using this network of trails can take backpackers all across the Allegheny National Forest.

The trail is best suited to hikers, although it is open to skiing and mountain biking. The Mill Creek Trail parallels Big Mill Creek, a popular trout stream.

SKIING BRUSH HOLLOW – There are 7.7 miles of trails that are marked with blue diamonds. Brush Hollow offers challenges to a wide range of skill levels. The section of trail located along Big Mill Creek is designated EASIEST and is suitable for beginners. The Brushy Gap and Elli Loops are designated MORE DIFFICULT. The Challenger Loop is designated MOST DIFFICULT and is suitable for experienced skiers. “You Are Here” signs are located at trail junctions and other key locations. The trail is groomed by volunteers.

Scenic overlooks of the Big Mill Creek valley are located on the Challenger and Elli Loops. Portions of the trail system are located along abandoned

railroad grades that were used for logging at the turn of the century. In the spring many of the trails are decorated with wildflowers. This area is also a good place to view wildlife.

REGULATIONS – These trails are for hiking, cross-country skiing and mountain biking. When there is snow on the trail, hikers should not walk in ski tracks. If you bring your dog, please keep it off the tracks also. Skiers cannot ski over your footprints. Motorized vehicles, ATV's and snowmobiles are not allowed on any of the trails. Forest trails policy prohibits the use of saddle, pack or draft animals on hiking or cross-country ski trails. Camping is allowed along the trail as long as your equipment does not block the trail.

SAFETY – The Brush Hollow Trails are designated EASIEST (for warm-up and beginners), MORE DIFFICULT (requires some skill and challenge), and MOST DIFFICULT (for experienced skiers). Hills are marked with Caution signs. Please ski safely and within your level of control. Ski to the right when approaching other skiers or when being passed by other skiers: Track Right!

Please remember these safety tips: Always wear clothing appropriate for your activity. Carry extra wax if skiing. Ski with a friend, especially at night. Boil water for drinking. Be aware that these trails are used by hunters in the spring and fall. It is a good idea to wear bright fluorescent colored clothing during these periods.

Practice LEAVE NO TRACE ETHICS—PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT, and for sanitary disposal of waste, dig a pit at least 6 inches deep and at least 200 feet from water.

EMERGENCY – **Call 911.** The nearest hospital is located in Ridgway, ten miles south on State Route 948. The nearest telephone is located in Highland Corners, four miles north on State Route 948. Please report any unsafe trail conditions such as downed trees and missing signs to the Marienville Ranger District. We appreciate your support.

VOLUNTEERS – If you, a friend, or your club are interested in volunteering to help maintain this area, please contact the Marienville Ranger District.

CUSTOMER SERVICE – The Ridgway area is a full-service community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION – about this and other recreation opportunities, contact:

Marienville Ranger District

131 Smokey Lane • Marienville, PA 16239

814-927-6628

www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/allegheny

NW Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau

2801 Maplevale Road • Brookville, PA 15825

814-849-5197 • 800-348-9393

www.visitpago.com



ENJOY THE TRAIL!

Please recycle by returning your brochure to the rack when you have finished your visit, unless you want to keep it. Thank you for helping reduce brochure expenses, as well as saving paper.

ENJOY YOUR VISIT!

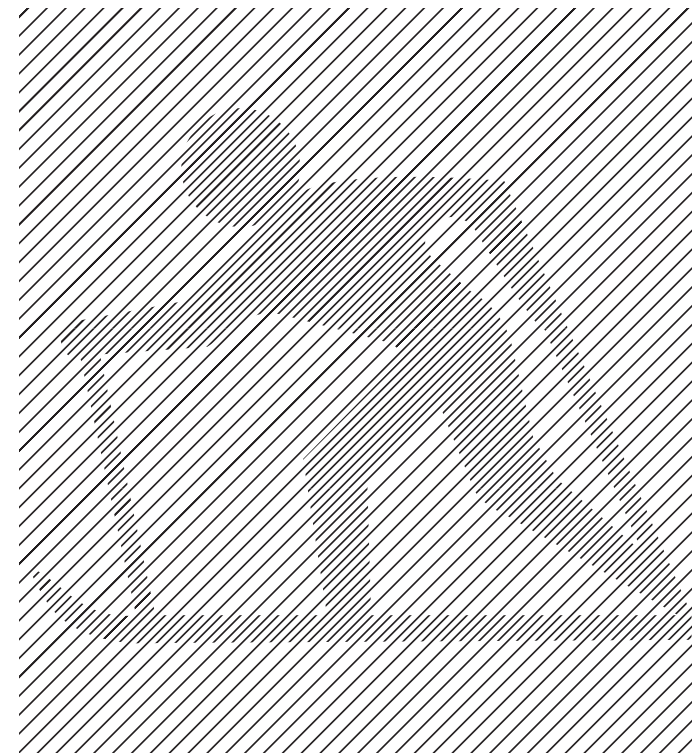
This brochure can be obtained in large print at the Allegheny National Forest, 4 Farm Colony Dr., Warren, PA 16365, (814) 723-5150.

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Brush Hollow & Mill Creek X-C Ski/Hiking Area



Allegheny National Forest

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service



2016

See
Twin Lakes Trail
brochure for information
on this trail.

Twin Lakes Trail

4009

RR

Kane

Knox and

Brush Hollow/Mill Creek Cross-Country Ski/Hiking Area

Allegheny National Forest

Trailhead Elevation = 1640'

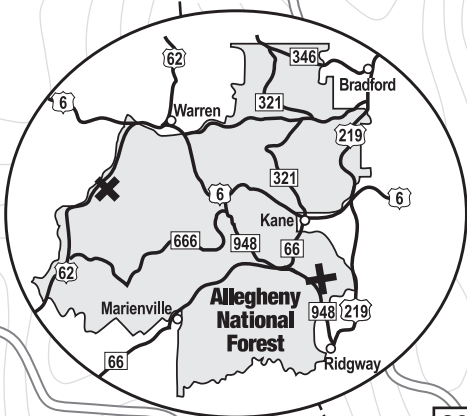
Brush Hollow Elevation Range = 1620' - 1900'

Mill Creek Elevation Range = 1620' - 2040'

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 1.0 mile

0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 km

Scale



Ellithorpe Run

2.1

Cherry Run

304

Big Mill Creek

5.6
Mill Creek Trail

239

239A

497

Elli Loop

0.6

0.6

0.3

0.5

Brushy Gap

Challenger Loop

0.6

0.8

0.6

0.1

0.3

0.15

948

NAD27:
UTM 17N
E 684380
N 4601050

**Easiest**
For warm-up and new skiers

**More Difficult**
For advanced beginners
and experienced skiers

**Most Difficult**
For experienced skiers



Leave No Trace!


Leave No Trace is a National non-profit organization that unites public and private partners to teach minimum impact skills and ethics to all outdoor enthusiasts.




7 Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics Principles


1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
3. Dispose of waste properly.
4. Leave what you find.
5. Minimize campfire impacts.
6. Respect wildlife.
7. Be considerate of other visitors.


Land stewardship ethics courtesy of Leave No Trace (www.LNT.org)



Legend



**P** Parking/Trailhead


 Trail



 Other Trail


 Stream


 State Route 948


 Forest Road 444


 Pipeline

 Miles Between Points 1.3

 Scenic Overlook

 Gate

 Bridge

 Hill

